

COMMUNITY NEWS

Work progresses forward toward the total rehab of the Elba levee

The Army Corp of Engineers had engineers in Elba last week working with city officials on the long anticipated upgrade of the Elba levee. They worked with utility companies on relocation of water, gas and electric lines and with City Attorney Jeff Kelley, on how they required property access and other documents to be prepared.

The engineers also presented Elba Mayor James Grimes a draft Project Management Plan, detailing the many areas of responsibility and assigning the responsibility for that work. The draft outlines the work and gives a target date for reaching each step of the project.

The estimated amount of the total project cost, which will be spent during each applicable year, are also charted. This shows the breakdown of the federal funds and local match portions of the project, which were very badly needed by Mayor Grimes as he works with state officials to assemble the necessary 35% local matching part of the project cost.

The total project cost is \$13,300 and Elba is responsible for finding the 35 percent local match. Up front, Elba must furnish clear title to all the real estate, plus 5 percent cash when the project contract is let. The 5 percent cash figure is \$645,000. This amount must be paid around September, the date Corp officials anticipate letting the construction contract. The additional local match funds will be due in equal payments in each of the next two fiscal years as the construction progresses.

However, before the contracts can be let, Elba officials are responsible for securing title to some property abutting the levee. This additional property will be used for the expanding and strengthening of the existing levee.

Some of the local match funds can be in "in kind" services. And Elba will have several hundred thousand dollars of

items which qualify in this area. However, these funds can only be applied to the final year's payments.

To be included in this type match is the roughly \$100,000 from the Choc, Pea, Yellow River Watershed Authority furnished for the initial topo studies on the existing Elba levee.

The rehab project is divided into 33 different areas (or stages) for management purposes. Each of the stages is set up with an estimated time to begin and a time to complete, with the entire project taking from 18 months to two years, depending on timing of each portion and weather conditions.

The final area on this chart is the flood plain remapping and the one Elba residents have been awaiting for several years. It means the levee has had a full rehab and Corp of Engineers is ready to close the project.

The plans call for the levee to be raised in some areas as much as five or six feet, widened at the base to give a 3:1 slope from the present 2:1 slope; a two foot wide mud/lury trench down the middle of the levee to an average depth of 25 feet from the top to seal off any possible seepage under the levee.

The 3:1 slope will enable better maintenance of the levee by making it easier to keep the slopes mowed and trees from sprouting up through the levee and causing a weakening of the structure. The additional width at the base will also add overall strength to the levee.

The concrete on the outer front of some parts of the existing levee will be maintained as it is now and all work in those areas will be done on the back or inside of the levee.



ENGINEERS FROM THE Corp of Engineers were in Elba two days last week fine tuning their levee rebuild plans, meeting with representatives of various utilities, including gas, water, electricity, telephone, highway engineers, etc. Attorneys with the Corp also reviewed the property maps and explained the rationale for the amount of property needed to complete the levee project. Pictured above are Corp representatives with Elba Mayor James Grimes, standing on the toe of the levee North of the Highway 84 bridge. Behind them is the lone gas line bringing natural gas into Elba. It too must be repositioned in the levee upgrade. Pictured are from left: Real Estate Attorney Joe Givhan, Mayor Grimes, Project Architect Engineer Mike McKown and Project Manager Charles Owens.



THE PROPOSED BEAVER DAM/MOORES CREEK Flood Control project was the subject of this Tuesday meeting of the project engineers and other involved professionals and local citizens. The meeting was held at the Elba Public Library. Elba Mayor James Grimes, shown in the center with his back to the camera, The purpose of this project is to reduce the chance of flooding and/or the magnitude of any flooding in the southern part of town, outside the levee including Brookdale.



PREPARING TO TEST the trailer mounted auxiliary generator in actual operation of driving the two emergency flood control pumps at the Putman Street rain water drain outlet. The pumps are designed to pump the water over the levee during times of high water and continuing rain. This generator (on the levee at left) will be used during times when traditional electric power is unavailable to operate the two pumps located to the right, and just outside this photograph.

Valentine Specials at **DOLLAR BEE Plus**

6" Valentine Bear... \$1.25

Assortment of plush Valentine Animals... \$2.99

18" Mylar Balloons - \$2.00 Each

36" Mylar Balloons - From \$3.99

18" Mylar Balloon with Stuffed Teddy Bear Attached \$3.25

44" Plush "I Love You" Bear only... \$44.95

** FREE Delivery to high schools including... Elba, Zion Chapel, Kinston and New Brockton

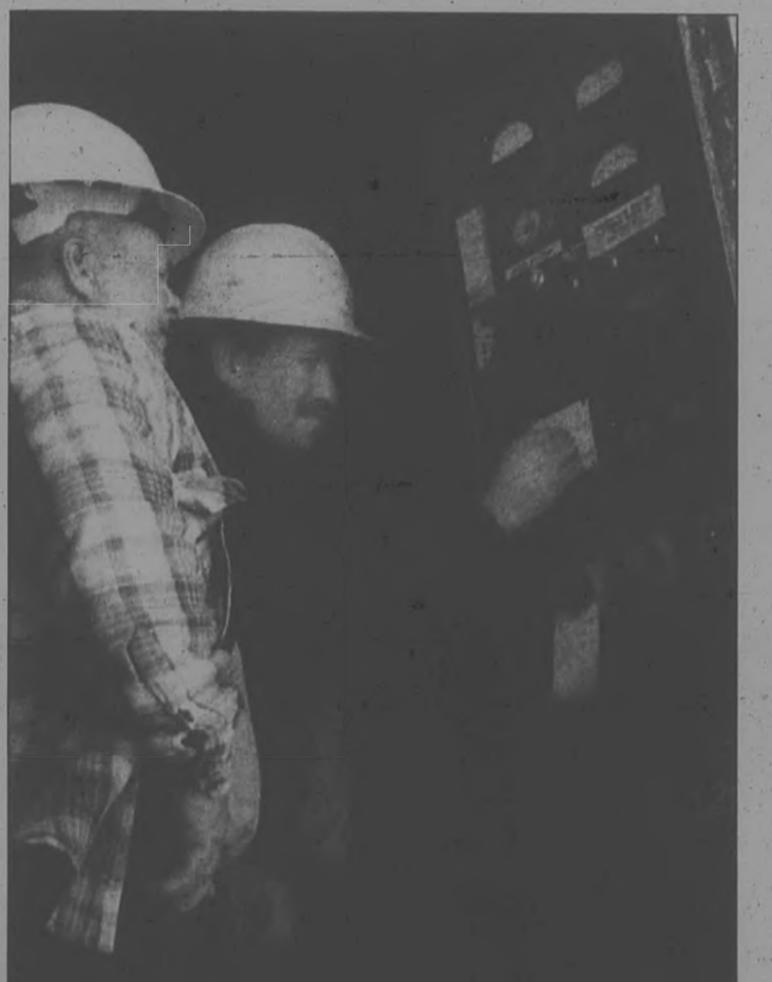
* Home and Business Delivery with a Minimum Charge!

* Elementary School Special: Bring your elementary student to the DOLLAR BEE Plus & get a balloon, 6" Plush Bear & a Keepsake Picture - \$5.25

The DOLLAR BEE Plus On the Square - Elba 897-3500

All Major Credit Cards Accepted!

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CHECKING THE OUTPUT of the recently acquired and repaired surplus auxiliary diesel powered 375 KVA generator are Elba utility department employees, Ron Martin (left) and Vic Davis. City crews moved the huge trailer mounted diesel engine and generator in place atop the levee on Monday. This was in preparation for the Tuesday morning official testing of the unit actually running the pumps dumping water over the levee. The generator produces enough power to operate the two flood control pumps located at the levee, off Putman Street and in what was the old original bed of Beaver Dam Creek, prior to construction of the Elba levee in the late 1930's.

NOTICE

Corrections need to be made on the granite memorial plaques displayed in the county courthouse in Enterprise honoring those citizens from Coffee County who have given their lives in service to their country. Extensive steps have been taken to properly recognize each person and the County Commission has agreed to provide funding for a new, corrected marker. Due to a strong desire to "give honor where honor is due," anyone with any knowledge of additions or corrections to the war memorial plaque now on display is asked to contact Mr. Wilson Mobley, Jr. at 894-5556. Accuracy is the goal so citizens are requested to make this contact with Mr. Mobley no later than February 15, 2001 to insure absolute correct information goes to the engraver.

ARCHIVES/COLLECTION MAN1-1-2002
624 WASHINGTON AVE
MONTGOMERY, AL 36130-0100

Linda Rice To Perform At Elba United Methodist

Bradley Wilson Gets Two Deer On First Day Of Season

McMillians Announce Birth Of Wanya Tazzale

The Elba Clipper

Volume 104, Number 36 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, February 15, 2001 1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Elba sales tax revenue above projections for first quarter of current fiscal year

Monday night the Elba City Council meeting went smoothly and reasonably fast. An important reason for that has to be the continuing low monthly bills and the fact that the sales tax revenue for the first three months of the fiscal year is higher than expected.

The council also approved applying for a \$10,000 Rural Business Opportunity Grant (RBOG) to be used for planning work at the Elba Industrial Park.

An amendment to the Personnel Policy, relating to Sexual Harassment, was approved. Mayor James Grimes explained to council members that this was at the recommendation of the Alabama League of Municipalities and had been reviewed by City Attorney Jeff Kelley.

Recreation Director Ricky Mularz asked for and received approval to accept the lowest qualified bid on recreation equipment for the current year. He noted there were 56 items of equipment on the bid list and 55 of the 56 were lower than last year. Mularz added that the city normally buys only about a third of the items on the list and then only as needed.

Mularz reported that last year there were 853 players in 53 teams in the summer recreation program. He added that they were well coached, with local teams placing or winning in area, district and statewide tournaments.

The mayor said the local administration is still preparing for a drop in budgeted revenue as the national economic problems increase and filter down to the local economy.

Mularz noted bills of \$15,172.40 were received for payment. Grimes noted this was higher than the last two months, but he and the bookkeeper felt that as long as they keep the total bills below \$20,000, things will work out.

The recreation director said they had done an extensive inventory of equipment in their effort to help the city cut expenses.

Assistant Recreation Director Indya Lawless told the council about an upcoming Coffee

county will pay \$20,000 out of county coffers in addition to insurance company's \$5,000. Currently, there are four employees who are 70 years old or older working for the county.

The question was asked if the current insurance carrier would increase the death benefit to \$25,000 for those employees over 70 for an increase in their premium. County Administrator Wilson Mobley told commissioners that they would not do so.

He noted that all benefits, such as holidays, vacations and health coverage are equal for county employees with one exception, being the death benefit.

Stephens pointed out that under the current life insurance policy, all employees' beneficiaries receive \$25,000 in benefits of their death except those employees who are 70 years of age and older. Upon an employee reaching his or her 70th birthday, the benefit is reduced to \$5,000.

Commissioner Stephens made a motion that the county guarantee that all beneficiaries receive \$25,000 as a death benefit. This means that in the event of a county employee's death who is over the age of 70, the benefit would be reduced to \$5,000.

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CHURCH NEWS



Linda Rice to be in concert at Elba United Methodist Church, Thursday, February 22

Linda Rice will be in concert at Elba United Methodist Church on Thursday, Feb. 22, at 7 p.m.

Linda is the only female "Gospel" harpist in the world with a full-time touring schedule. She and her French Canaries are invited.

Shiloh Baptist Church to hold Gospel Singing

Shiloh Baptist Church located off Hwy. 84, near Basie will have a Gospel Singing, Saturday, February 17, at 7:00 p.m.

The group, "Higher Reach" will be the performing.

Everyone is invited to attend.

Elba COC to have Barbecue this Saturday

The Elba Church of God is having a barbecue this Saturday the 17th.

Plates are \$5.00 and lbs. are \$4.00 for orders.

Woodland Grove Baptist Church WMU to sponsor "Have a Heart" Valentine Benefit Barquet

The Woodland Grove Baptist Church WMU will sponsor the "Have a Heart" Valentine Benefit Barquet on Saturday, Feb. 17, from 6-8:30 p.m. at the National Security Conference Center, Hwy. 84 in Elba. The dinner will be catered by Kelly's BBQ, and musical entertainment will be provided by the Wilkerson Family. The guest speaker will be Brian Gary Winstead, pastor of Ino Baptist Church. The cost for the

event will be \$10.00 per person or \$15 per couple. For each ticket \$4 (single) or \$3 (couple) will go to benefit the Wanda of Wanda Johnson Tandy. Reservations must be made by Wednesday, Feb. 14. For reservations, call Kerry Johnson at 393-3007 or Shirley White at 897-5384 and leave your name and phone number. Door prizes will be given.

Damascus Baptist Church plans Revival Services for Feb 18 - 23

Damascus Baptist Church will hold a "Return To Me Revival" with Rev. Cary Brown, evangelist, and Casey Speigner, music. The Revival will begin

on Sunday, Feb. 18, at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. It will continue Feb. 19-23 at 7 p.m. nightly. Everyone is invited.

WORSHIP AT THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS SUNDAY!

The Youth Ministry of Westside Baptist Church is sponsoring a prayer walk around Elba, Saturday, Feb. 24, at 10 a.m. The walk will begin at

ROUND AND ABOUT WITH ERIIA 897-2006

***The love of you, Praying for you Anna Belcher Jason Guley, Colby Belcher, Jason Guley, Faye Manning Vick E. Lindsey, Johnnie Yelverton, Rev. Earl Magwood, W.H. Caldwell, The Caldwell, Smith, Blue, Terrell and Scott families, Glen Kelley, Bill S. Kelley, Kathy Johnson, Tammy Tillis, Rev. N. L. Robinson

***February Birthday: Mattie Belcher - Feb. 21

***Annual Celebration of Family and Friends Day and Commemoration of "Black History" will be held at the LeGrand Community Church in Montgomery on Sunday, Feb. 18, at 12 Noon. Guests will be welcome.

***The Majestic McDuffie, pastor and Elba Belcher Belcher, assistant pastor of Hopewell

Corbinland, Presbyterian Church in Leighton, Ala. Please

feel free to dress in African attire if you like; however, it is not a requirement.

***Fellowship Banquet of North Highland Baptist Church, Dothan, will be Saturday, Feb. 17, at 6 p.m. Guest speaker will be Rev. C.A. Hammond Jr., pastor of Pleasant Shade

Missionary Baptist Church in Enterprise.

***Black History Program of the St. Mark Baptist Church in Glenwillow, will be Sunday, Feb. 18, at 4 p.m. The guest minister will be Rev. C.P. Noble, pastor of the Greater St. Mark in Tuskegee.

***Black History Program of Zion First Baptist Church in Brantley will be Saturday, Feb.

18, at 6 p.m. Guest speaker will be Rev. C.A. Hammond Jr., pastor of Pleasant Shade

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SCHOOLS

Co-Op Spotlight



by Tabitha Schultz
This week's co-op spotlight focuses on Onida Davis. Nada is a 17-year-old employee of Ryan's Steakhouse where she is a cashier and server. She says that she has learned most from her job: "Working well with people is easy if you keep a positive attitude."

Nada is the daughter of Carolyn Silas and Gary Davis. She is a member of Beta Epsilon Chorus, and Elba Mulberry Heights Church of Christ.

After graduation, Nada plans on going into the Air Force.

SUPPORT THE ELBA TIGERS' SPORTS PROGRAM IN THE 2000-2001 SEASON

SUPPORT YOUTH & EDUCATION

Tiger Tales

Editors: Bethany Dye, Amanda Beerensrauch



Student Spotlight



by Francie English
Name: Brittany Hudson
Parents: Tabatha Hudson
Age: 12
Grade: 7th
Fav. Color: Neon Pink
Fav. Music: Alternative
Clubs/Activities: Jr. Beta and Volleyball
Interests/Hobbies: Volleyball and Dancing
Personal Quote: "What doesn't kill you makes you stronger."

Brittany Hudson was chosen to be this week's Student Spotlight.

Brittany's favorite class is her science class because she loves doing the experiments.

Being able to decide on various things such as what classes to take is what she enjoys most about Elba High School. The one event that sticks out most in Brittany's mind is when she had to dissect a frog in Coach

Week's class. The one class that Brittany would like to be able to take but is unavailable at EHS is French.

After graduation, Brittany's goal is to go to college and earn a high degree.

County's youth leaders get locked up

by Chelsea Cooper

On Wednesday, Jan. 24, the Coffee County Youth Leadership Council met again at 7:30 to begin our day on health care.

Judy Crayley was our leader for the day, and she gave us a brief overview of what the day would entail.

At 8:45, we left the hospital in Enterprise where we were welcomed by Sheriff Ben Morris. He gave us a brief overview of what happens in the everyday life of a prisoner. We were allowed into the jail and anxiously watched as the doors closed and locked behind us. We saw where the clothes were washed, looked in the kitchen, and then visited both the male and female cellblocks. I even had my rights read to me and my trial date set by a man at the courthouse over the computer. We politely thanked Sheriff Morris for his time, and I hope we didn't look too ready to leave as we rushed out the door.

We then traveled to the courthouse where Judge Gary McAllister explained how the court system works. He then led us on a tour of the judge's chamber and the juvenile court room. After we left the courthouse, we ate lunch at the Enterprise Lions Club and listened to one of our participants speak about the program. After lunch, we got back on the buses and went to the extension office to fill out our evaluation forms.

On Wednesday, Feb. 7, the

Mini Miss category consisted of ten girls in Kindergarten-3rd grade. The winners were:

Second Runner-up: Keri Jones and Kendra Siler

First Runner-up: Aaliyah Horstead

Winner: Lindsay McClung

The Little Miss category consisted of four girls in grades 4-6. The winners were:

First Runner-up: Meagan Anderson

Winner: Cortlin Lee

The Junior Miss category consisted of fifteen girls in grades 7-9. The winners were:

Second Runner-up: Kendall Stinson

First Runner-up: Anna Harrison

Winner: Anna Anderson

The Miss category consisted of thirteen girls in grades 10-12. The winners were:

Second Runner-up: Heather Hudson

First Runner-up: Camrynne Anderson

Winner: Carey Holloway

Each of the contestants did a wonderful job. We would like to thank all the girls who participated, and we would like to encourage more girls to participate next year.

It's Electric

by Amy Kirkland

Juniors at EHS have recently been busy writing research papers for the annual Alabama Electric Cooperative (AEC) contest. All students in 11th grade Advanced English were required to write a paper on a given topic: "Rural Electric Cooperatives: Past, Present, and Future." Papers were graded for content and then were judged by teachers to decide which ones should be sent to AEC for final competition.

Stephanie Sasser, Michelle Adkins, Katie Crowe, Katie Grimes, Hunter Branch, Shay Johnson, Casey Skinner, Chelsea Cooper, Evan Maddox and Wesley Kelley wrote the top ten papers.

One winner from our school will receive a one-week trip to Washington D.C., provided by AEC.

Prices good Feb 14, 2001 through Feb 20, 2001

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FRESH GREEN CABBAGE 29¢ POUND	GENERAL MILLS GOLDEN GRAHAM CEREAL 2/\$5 13 OZ. BOX	RED RIPE EX LARGE TOMATOES 89¢ 13 OZ. BOX	PIGGY WIGGLY HONEY SLICED COOKED HAM \$1.99 10 OZ. PKG.
REGULAR OR THIN RONCO SPAGHETTI 3/\$1 7 OZ. BAG	ASSORTED FLAVORS HUNTS SPAGHETTI SAUCE 89¢ 26-27.5 OZ. CAN	REGULAR OR CHERRY CHAP STICK 99¢ 8 OZ. BOWL	LAUNDRY AJAX DETERGENT 89¢ 24 OZ. BOX
REFRESHING COCA COLA SOFT DRINKS 2/\$7 12 PK/12 OZ.	ASSORTED KRAFT COOL WHIP 99¢ EACH TUBE	PLAIN OR SELF RISING FLOUR 99¢ 5 LB BAG	SALUTE!! GREAT JOB

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For more information or to register for an Autoshift transmission training class, please call Cindy Clark at (334) 493-3573, ext. 244

The Workforce Development and Continuing Education Program at Douglas MacArthur State Technical College will host a series of Autoshift transmission training classes. Mr. Marvin Strain with Eaton Corporation, Southeast Region, will present the training classes for local diesel and heavy equipment technicians.

Each of the Autoshift transmission training classes will cover electrical components, theory of operation, and troubleshooting techniques. Service and troubleshooting manuals will be provided for attendees.

The 8-hour Autoshift transmission training class will be offered on three dates for your scheduling convenience: February 27, 28 and March 1 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day. Each of the Autoshift transmission training classes will be held at Douglas MacArthur State Technical College in the Diesel and Heavy Equipment Department. There is no charge to attend an Autoshift transmission training class. Classes are limited to 10 people per day.

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SPORTS

Views from...

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Ball season is drawing near, and for the girls in the Mularz house that meant it was time last week for them to find their gloves and try on their shoes, which of course didn't even come close to fitting. I enjoy playing catch with the girls and helping them with the fundamentals, but Dad is no longer quick enough to defend himself when it comes to pitching batting practice, and I guess the girls will have to be satisfied with just a few free shots...

*** The Elba Tigers saw their season come to an end last week with a 55-50 loss to Pike County in the opening round of the area tournament, and while the Tigers were disappointed with the finish, their 12-11 record was something that the players and coaches should take pride in. The Tigers lost all five starters off last season's region tournament squad, and then saw last year's sixth man decide not to come out for his senior season and the top two players off last year's JV squad not come out due to grades and a move to Florida. Coach Bledsoe told his team from day one that he didn't care about last year's team and wasn't concerned about the players that weren't on this year's team. His concern was about the players that were on the team, and they all worked hard to put a winning season with a team that only dressed out eight players and started two sophomores and three juniors. I realize that one was ready for the season to end, but Coach Bledsoe laid the foundation for a solid program this season, and the Tigers should be a team to watch next year.

The Elba Lady Tigers won the regular season area championship and moved on to the opening round of the area tournament last week with a win over Luverne in the opening round of the tournament. The Lady Tigers haven't really played that well since a big win over New Brockton a few weeks back, but have still managed to rise to the challenge in almost every game to pull out a win. The Lady Tigers have the deadly combination of outside shooting and inside scoring punch, with power inside to dominate the boards, and when the girls are on, it is fun to watch. Now is the time for the girls to realize that they deserve to be where they are and to take that next step and make it to Troy State, and possibly the Final Four. There won't be any easy opponents left, but the Lady Tigers aren't an easy team to beat, either, and from a fans standpoint I can't wait to see the rest of the season.

*** The area high school teams all began play in their area tournaments over the weekend, and after the opening round of action only the Zion Chapel Rebels and New Brockton Lady Gamecocks are still alive. The Rebels used the 35-point outburst of Josh McWayne to beat Kinston and got past the Bulldogs in overtime, and now are assured of more games, while the Lady Gamecocks rode the hot outside shooting of Reba' Dawson to beat past Samson, and are also assured of a berth in sub-region play. Kinston was expected to battle for the area title before being upset by the Rebels. However, Coach Gary Glass appeared to turn the Bulldogs back around late in the season, and should be a team to watch in the next year. New Brockton was no match for Barbour County and lost in the first round of the tournament, but like the Bulldogs, the Gamecocks, got better late in the year and should be looking forward to playing some teams back next season for the whippings they took this season. Brantley struggled to get over the .500 mark all season long, but was eliminated in the semifinals of the tournament by J.F. Shields and suffered a rare losing season. The Bulldogs were very young, however, and you know they won't be down for long. Over in girls ball, it was a long season for both Kinston and Zion Chapel, but it was a season that is now finally over. The Lady Bulldogs learned a lot during the season and should be much improved next year, while the Lady Rebels failed to win a game, but did get some very young players a lot on the job training. Brantley girls were very competitive throughout the year, but played in a tough league and should have learned just what it will take to win in years to come.

*** It is a little hard to believe, but the Elba baseball and softball teams have already started practicing for the upcoming season. The Tigers will be young and inexperienced, but should be a threat to advance to post-season play while the Lady Tigers will fight it out with ten starters, and will have to scrap to have a winning season. The teams are working hard, however, and hard work does pay off.

*** The Calhoun Community College Warhawks claimed their third straight conference win last week with a win over ESJC, and for the third straight game the Warhawks' leading scorer was former Elba standout Tim Ware with 23 points. Ware has averaged almost 25 points a game in the Warhawks' recent winning streak, and it looks like Calhoun may finally be getting over its mid-season slump just in time for the state tournament.

*** In closing, the Elba Athletic Club will meet next week to elect new officers and set committees for the coming year, and I urge all supporters of Elba High School athletics to come to this very important meeting. The recent proration of the schools in the area will have an impact on Elba High, and the school needs financial help if the school's overall sports program is to be able to go on as in previous years. Even if you can't afford to give money, I am sure the coaches would appreciate any help possible working on the fields and in other ways. Hey, every little bit helps, and that is what the Elba Athletic Club is all about. See ya there!

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Fall to Pike County 55-50

Tigers make early exit from tourney

The Elba Tigers made an early exit from the Class 3A, Area 2 basketball tournament Saturday night in Calhoun, and were defeated by the Pike County Bulldogs 55-50, in opening round action.

The loss left the Tigers with a final record of 12-11 for the season, while Pike County improved its record to 9-15 with the win and advanced to the area finals against Calhoun, which defeated Luverne 101-66 in the other opening round game.

The Tigers came out ready to play against Pike County and behind the inside scoring of John Mitchell and a long three-point shot by Marcus Henderson jumped out to a 20-10 lead with 6:05 remaining in the first quarter with a basket by John Mitchell with 46 left was the only other points Elba could manage to score in the quarter, and entering the fourth quarter the Tigers found themselves trailing 38-28.

Elba, sparked by the play of Marcus Henderson and John Mitchell, opened the fourth quarter with a 7-2 run to cut the Pike County lead to 40-35, and Elba pulled within 44-42 with 2:52 remaining on a three-point shot by Vincent Jackson. The Tigers matched the Bulldogs point for point over the next two minutes and were still within two points at 52-50 with 23 left on the clock, but Pike County hit 3 of 4 free-throws in the closing seconds to hold on, and Elba saw its season draw to a close with the 55-50 tournament loss.

John Mitchell scored 23 points, including 12 in the fourth quarter, to lead Elba, while Marcus Henderson added 12 points. Foster and Jackson both scored 14 points to lead Pike County.

PC 9 16 13 17 - 55
Elba 11 9 - 8 22 - 50

P.C. (55) Walker 10, Foster 14, Walker 10, Boyd 3, Jackson 14.

Elba (50) Burks 2, Head 8, Hammonds 3, Henderson 12, Brooks 2, Mitchell 23.

Baseball and softball registration set to begin on Feb. 20 in Elba

will be based upon their age on or before Jan. 1, 2001, and all players will be required to play their respective age divisions. The registration through Friday, March 2.

The department will sponsor baseball leagues for boys ages 4-6 (Tee Ball), 7-8 (Coach Pitch), 9-10 (Dixie Minor), 11-12 (Dixie Youth), 13-14 (Dixie Boys), 15-16 (Dixie Pre-Majors), and 17-18 (Dixie Majors).

Elba senior Alan Head battled for two baskets in the final 34-seconds of the half to end the Tigers' scoring drought, but at intermission Elba went in on the short end of a 25-20 score.

Marcus Henderson scored on

Elba's John Mitchell goes up for a basket during a recent Tiger win. Mitchell scored 23 points Saturday night in the Tigers' 55-50 loss to Pike County in the opening round of the Class 3A, Area 2 tournament.

Tigers fall to Goshen 86-29

The Elba Tigers traveled to Goshen last Friday night to challenge the third-ranked Goshen Eagles and were simply no match for the high-flying Eagles as Goshen celebrated "Senior Night" by blasting the Tigers 86-29.

The loss dropped Elba's record to 12-10, while Goshen upped its record to 18-2 with 12 lead.

Goshen's lead grew to as many as 61 points midway in the fourth quarter, and the highly-ranked Eagles easily held on to down the Tigers 86-29.

John Mitchell scored 8 points to lead Elba, while Kendaris Pelton scored 21 points and Jamar Tucker added 18 for Goshen.

G 20 24 22 - 86
E 8 4 10 - 7 - 29

Goshen (86) - Berry 12, Pelton 2, Flowers 4, Wright 6, Ginyard 4, K. Pelton 21, Rogers 14, Tucker 18, Green 5.

Elba (29) Barnes 6, Head 6, Andrews 4, Henderson 5, Mitchell 8.

Charting the.... TOURNAMENT TRAIL

Zion Chapel ambushed Kinston 74-65

The Class 1A, Area 4 Boys Basketball Tournament tipped off Saturday night at the G.W. Long High School gym, in Skipperville, with the Zion Chapel Rebels moving into the area finals with an exciting 74-65 overtime win over the Kinston Bulldogs.

The (3-12) Rebels had lost to the (8-12) Bulldogs by over thirty points less than two weeks ago, but Saturday night the Rebels matched their cross-county rivals basket for basket in regulation, and then poured in 13 points in the overtime period to pull out the upset win.

Josh McWayne scored 35 points and Marcus Taylor added 13 to lead Zion Chapel, while Lee Whigham poked Kinston with 21 points. Patrick Nelson added 18 points and Jay Driver scored 11 for the Bulldogs.

Lady Gamecocks slap Samson 55-56

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks advanced to the area finals and earned a berth in sub-region play Friday night by claiming an exciting 55-56 win over the Samson Lady Tigers, in the opening round of the Class 2A, Area 3 basketball tournament, at Clayton.

The win improved the Lady Gamecocks' record to 14-10 and moved New Brockton into an area championship match-up against Barbour County, while Samson closed its season with a final record of 10-15.

Rena Donaldson nailed five three-pointers in the fourth quarter and hit a total of seven threes in the game to lead New Brockton with 29 points, while Kendra Cole added 19 points. Psyche Bass scored 24 points to lead Samson, while Kasey White added 18.

Kinston and Z.C. girls make early exit

The Class 1A, Area 4 Girls Basketball Tournament held its opening round on Friday night at G.W. Long High School, in Skipperville, with the Zion Chapel Lady Rebels and Kinston Lady Bulldogs both being eliminated in opening round action.

The Zion Chapel Lady Rebels tangled with the (22-3) G.W. Long Lady Rebels in their opener and were eliminated 62-10. Jill Woodard led the Lady Rebels with 13 points, while Chelsi Simmons, Erica Proter and Ashley Wright added 10.

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs drew the (15-6) Arton Lady Purple Cats in the opening round and suffered a 41-25 setback. April Weeks scored 8 points to lead the Lady Bulldogs, while Stephanie Oliver added 6 points to lead Arton.

Continued...please see "Tournament Trail" on page 9

SUPPORT HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS!



SPORTS

Earn berth in area finals and sub-region

Lady Tigers rally past Luverne 47-30

The Elba Lady Tigers pulled ahead in the third quarter and the pulled away late to blast the Luverne Lady Tigers 47-30.

Friday night in the opening round of the Class 3A, Area 2 basketball tournament, at the Elba High gym.

The win upset Elba's record to 21-4 and moved the Lady Tigers into the area championship game against Calhoun.

while the loss left Luverne with a final record of 4-17.

Elba jumped out to a quick 3-0 lead on a three-pointer by Laguna Mack, but the Lady Tigers were ice cold from the floor for the remainder of the half, and at intermission found themselves in a 15-15 deadlock

30 win.

Rosanda McKinnon scored 23 points to lead Elba, while Chavona Harris led Luverne 4-2, Mash.

McKinnon, held to only 2 points in the opening half, poured in 15 points in the third quarter as Elba opened up a 33-25 advantage, and the Lady Tigers ran away over the final eight minutes to claim the 47-30 win.

Elba (47): McKinnon 23, Bludsworth 6, Proctor 8, Mack 6, Ware 4.

Luverne (30): West 3, Barber 4, Harris 13, Morrow 3, Vardaro 2, Mash 5.



Spotlight On....

HUNTING



JAMEY WHITE, age 14, killed this 8-point, 180-pound, buck while hunting on Jan. 20. It was his first buck, and he bagged it while hunting on private land.



BRADLEY WILSON killed this doe and spike while hunting on the first day of the season.

OUTDOORS WITH BEN

By Ben Norman, Outdoors Columnist

"Good Scents and Bad Scents"

The nose of the whitetail deer is probably responsible for more deer hunters failing to bring home the venison than any other factor. It is not they have an excellent hearing ability and decent eyesight, but a buck's nose is equivalent to the U.S. Radar system.

How many times have you heard that disappointing "alarm snort" when going to or from your stand. Most of the commercial cover scents will at least provide some suppression of human odor, but many believe a dusting of baking soda after a good shower with non-scented soap is just as effective.

As deer hunters we concentrate our efforts primarily on cover scents to mask our scent, or attract scents that appeal to the love thoughts of the dominant buck. But many are overlooking another option that can be added to little bag of "good smell" tricks" that can be very productive during the rut.

A "challenge scent" used correctly can bring the dominant buck on the run to a hunter just as a whiff of human scent can make disappear. Like many of our big game animals, deer are very territorial, and there is no time of the year when bucks are more territorial than during the rut.

The dominant buck is familiar with the smell of other bucks that live in his territory. Since most of these bucks are younger or bucks he has already defeated in a battle that established him as the boss, he doesn't get up when he gets a whiff of one of these familiar scents.

Dominant bucks begin marking their territory during the pre-rut by making rubs on trees that says in buck language "Keep Out-My-Territory". It is at this stage the dominant buck gets more aggressive towards any intruder buck that enters his territory. Breeding has not usually begun at this stage, but lines are being drawn.

It is at this stage the challenge scents begin to become effective. Some hunters make their own challenge scents by combining tarsal glands and buck urine. Several of the large deer scent suppliers offer challenge scents ready to use.

While the dominant buck doesn't like intruding bucks during the rut, he gets down right fighting mad when the rut begins and he thinks another buck is stealing his girlfriends. Once scapes are actually being made and does start breeding, the challenge scent combined with a little doe-in-estrus scent applied to a scrape can be the trick that puts a wall hanger in your deer.

Dominant bucks do loose some of their natural caution during the rut while they are busy hunting does and running off intruder bucks, but they are not oblivious. Proper camouflage, good hygiene, avoiding aftershave and perfume, airing hunting clothes outside before putting them on, stand location, stealth and a good challenge scent all combined together just may be the trick that makes a visit to the taxidermist necessary.

Continued...please see "Tournament Trail" on page 9

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For Low and Very Low Income Families / Single 1, 2, 3 & 4 Bedrooms All Utilities Furnished Except Electricity If Interested Contact:

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TWO CEMETERY LOTS AT HILLCREST MEMORIAL GARDENS. If interested call 897-2811. 245-262.

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CARS - \$29+ mo. Police impounds and repos. Honda, Chevy and sport cars. Call 897-5474 at 1995. Call to purchase listings. 1-800-941-8777. EM: C498. (R)

GOVT POSTAL jobs. Up to \$18.35 hours hiring for 2001. Free for application. examination information. Federal hire - full benefits. 1-800-598-4542. extension 1209, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. CST 17 days. (R)

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ABSOLUTE AUCTION

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February 20, 10 a.m.

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ABSOLUTE AUCTION

Talladega, Alabama 135+/- acres, 3 houses, 2 barns. Offered in parcels & / or entirety. Fronts Highways 21 and Bypass. March 3, 10 a.m. Brochure 1-800-996-2877.

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Reps, a Prime

Business

Company

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In Enterprise, Alabama

During This National Inventory Reduction, Virtually Every Make And Model Of Vehicle Will Be Elimination Priced For Immediate Delivery. To Maintain Plant Production Through The Spring Months, Manufacturers Have Committed Millions Of Dollars In Incentive Monies Insuring This Reduction Success. There Will Be:

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- LARGEST BANKS IN THE COUNTRY ARE PARTICIPATING
- VIRTUALLY EVERY MAKE AND MODEL AVAILABLE
- ALL VEHICLES CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE REDUCTION PRICE

This National Inventory Reduction Will Be Open To The Public As Well As Area Dealerships. It Is Requested That Vehicles Bought For Resale (By Dealers) Be Resold At Normal Market Pricing To Maintain Market Integrity At The Conclusion Of This Limited Inventory Reduction. During The Reduction, The General Public Will Be Eligible To The Same Pricing Considerations As Area Dealers.

The Best And Largest Banks In The Country Have Been Retained To Provide Loan Financing During This Inventory Reduction. All Credit Applications Will Be Accepted. Local Credit Unions Will Also Be Providing Loan Approvals.

National Buyers And Auctioneers Will Allow All Trade-Ins To Be Taken In. All Trade-Ins-Regardless Of Condition-Running Or Not-Paid For Or Not-Will Be Accepted. Trade-Ins May Be Transferred To Other Market Areas To Insure Maximum Values.

Manufacturer Incentive Monies Including Rebates, Customer Cash Incentives And Dealer Cash Allowances May Be Applied To Already Heavily Discounted Reduction Pricing To Maintain Normal Plant Production Cycles.

This National Inventory Reduction Is Being Held In Conjunction With Unusually Severe Winter Weather Conditions And Huge Market Fluctuations. Normal Pricing May Resume At The Conclusion Of This Event When Normal Conditions May Be Resumed.

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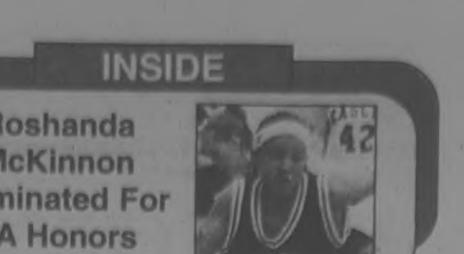
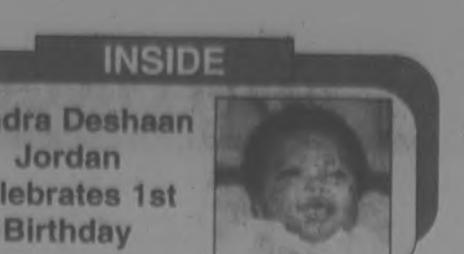
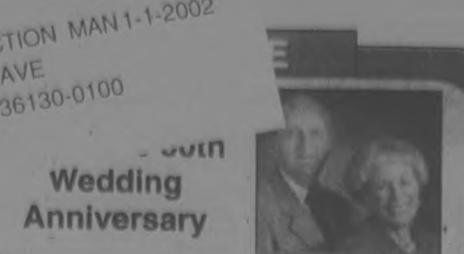
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The Elba Clipper

Volume 104, Number 37 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, February 22, 2001 1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 1 Ad Insert

Elba utility users facing increase in electric and water rates before summer arrives

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba Water and Electric Board faced some unusual news at their last monthly meeting. Elba Mayor James Grimes, who also serves as Superintendent of the utility, noted that the recently completed annual audit recommended the board look at increasing utility rates. The cost of electricity alone last year increased \$100,000 over the previous year, and for about the same amount of electricity. Grimes noted that Elba has not had an electric rate increase since 1981.

Grimes noted that surrounding utilities have "already increased rates above that currently being charged by Elba."

The recommended increase being considered by the board would see all classes of electric rates increase. Residential minimums would increase from \$4.00 to \$8.00 and the KWH charge would increase from .065¢ to .068¢, but with an accompanying elimination of the fuel adjustment charge, unless there was a huge jump in this add-on fee from the wholesale supplier. There are 1380

residential customers, and an average increase of \$.88 per month will net the utility an estimated \$128,000.

Small commercial service would increase from .07¢ per KWH to .075¢ with the same add-on in the flat rate from \$4 to \$8. There are 44 customers in this category and they use an average of 2347 kwhs. Their billing would increase an average of \$1,084 per month.

Large commercial users are on a three rate sliding scale and each of these would also increase, but the demand rate on these customers would not increase. There are 37 customers in this category. They use an average of 16,500 kwhs. Their billing would increase an average of \$.4950 per month.

The three industrial users in Elba would also see an increase under the recommended proposal, but here also the demand charge would not increase.

An increase in security light monthly charges is recommended. The increase would be from \$5.00 a month to \$5.95 a month.

Some classes of water rates are also being considered for rate increases, but residential

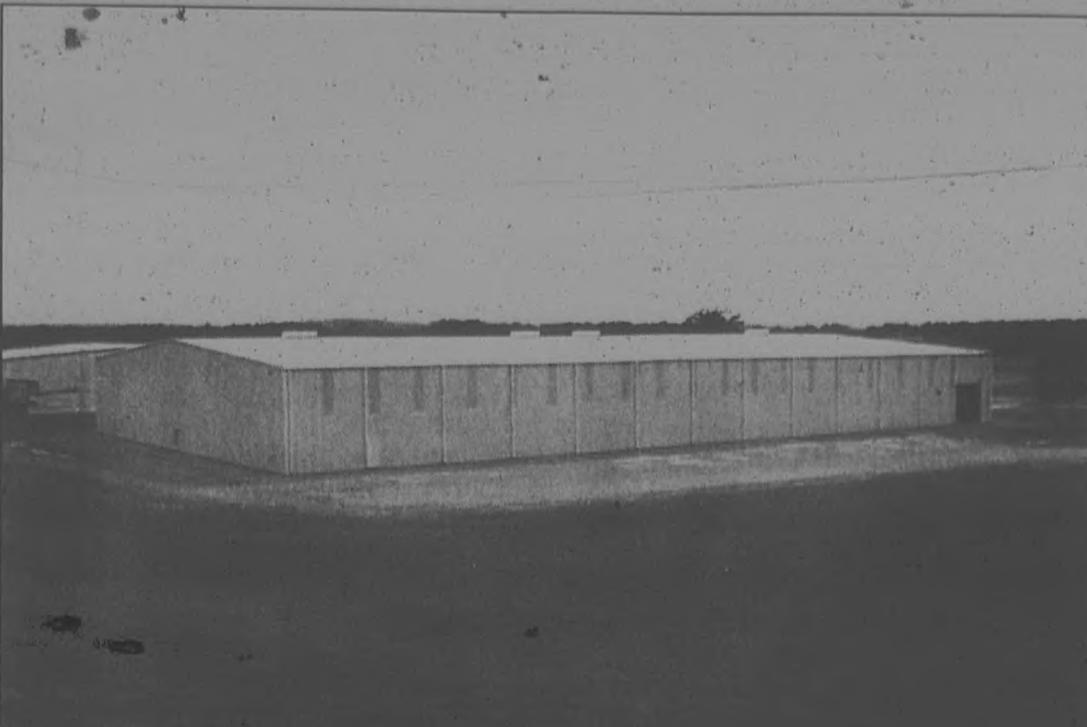
customers would escape this increase under the proposal being considered. Financial reports continue to show the utility losing money on water sales. Grimes and board have shown that only the larger volume users, who now get water for as low as .8¢ per thousand gallons, should see the increase. Board members were told that it cost the utility over a dollar per gallon to pump the water out of the ground. Only about 40 customers use over 20,000 gallons per month, and only 12 or 15 of those would face these increased water rates.

Board members took the recommendations under advisement and will discuss the matter further at a later meeting.

Grimes got the board's approval to look into a method of allowing residential customers to average their monthly bill over a 12-month period, thus avoiding the peak bills during extreme weather months.

Monthly expense bills totaling \$39,400.55 were approved for payment.

Members of the utility board are Chairman Tim Johnson, L. M. Burch, David Bandstra, Mickey Murdock and Ronnie Hammont.



READY FOR OCCUPANTS... The new "speculative building" located in Elba's Industrial Park is very near completion and is ready to be occupied. The building was constructed under the guidance of the Elba Industrial Board. It is an all metal building containing 39,400 square feet of floor space and well insulated. The building will be marketed through the Elba Economic Development Board with the assistance from the Alabama Development Office and the marketing services of Alabama Electric Cooperative (AEC). The industrial park is conveniently located off of Highway 20 and the spec building is approximately 10 acres of that park. There is plenty of room for expansion. A perspective on the size of the building can be gained by looking at the picture on page 11. For more information contact Kaya Whitworth at (334) 897-3125 or (334) 897-1700 or call toll free 1-800-279-8905.

Severe Weather Preparedness Week

Governor Don Siegelman has proclaimed this week, February 19-23 as Severe Weather Preparedness Week in Alabama.

The Coffee County Commission and the Coffee County Emergency Management Agency join the National Weather Service, the American Red Cross, the Alabama Emergency Management Agency and the State Department of Education in asking for the public's help in spreading information about severe weather and how to prepare for it.

Another example is the tornado that struck Joppa and Arab in February 1995. All are grim reminders of the force of severe weather in Alabama.

The following facts point to need for preparedness:

Alabama is one of the hardest hit states in the nation by severe weather. Each year, individuals face the hardship caused by severe weather. Alabama's main severe weather season in 2000 was relatively calm. However, the year ended with an explosion and on a record setting note.

See School - Page 11

Area Happenings

CHAMBER SPONSORS CLEAN UP DAY The Elba Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a team-clean up day to be held on Saturday, Feb. 24, in order to continue the beautification project and the general cleaning of the square. This event will begin at 9 a.m. at the Courthouse. All civic groups, business organizations, churches, school clubs and any other interested volunteers are asked to sponsor a team in order to make this a big success. Lunch will be provided at the Dairy Queen at 12 Noon. Please call the chamber office at 897-3125 by Friday, Feb. 23, to sign up and give the name of the team's captain.

COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING The Coffee County Commission will hold its bi-monthly meeting Monday, February 26, 2001, at 9 a.m. in the Community Room located in the County Complex in New Brockton, Ala.

FOSTER PARENT ASSOCIATION MEETING The Coffee County Department of Human Resources Foster Parent Association will have its monthly meeting Monday, February 26, at 6:30 p.m. in the DHR conference room in Enterprise. For further information contact Anita Grimes at 348-2044.

HOSPICE CAREGIVERS' SUPPORT GROUP Community Care Hospice will sponsor the Community Care Hospice Caregivers Support Group beginning Wednesday, Feb. 28. The group will meet the fourth Wednesday of every month at 9 a.m. at the Citizens Bank Community Room in Enterprise. The support group is open to all caregivers, not only those of Community Care Hospice.

FREE TAX PREPARATION FOR SENIORS Free tax preparation and counseling for seniors age 60 and older and taxpayers with middle and low income is available from AARP Tax-Aide. Unemployed Dorsey employees can take advantage of this free service. Call the Elba Senior Center to make an appointment for either Monday or Thursday, 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. each week April 15. For further information, call toll free 1-888-AARPNOW or visit the AARP website at www.aarp.org/taxaide for further information.

last year. Since 1990, lightning has killed 16 people and injured 197 across the state.

In an average year, lightning will kill or injure more victims than that of tornadoes or hurricanes.

There were no flash flood-related deaths or injuries in 2000 during the 20 flash flood events of 2000. In the past nine years, 34 people have died because of flooding in Alabama.

• Severe thunderstorms wind reached damaging force at least 416 times in 2000 and caused millions of dollars in damage. Three deaths were recorded in 2000 and 12 people were injured by thunderstorm winds.

Throughout the week, educational focus will be placed on tornadoes, flooding and flash flooding. This will also be addressed.

On Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2001, a statewide tornado drill was scheduled. Locally, all warning sirens located throughout the county were to be sounded at

Please See DRILL, Page 3



BEWARE OF FUNNY MONEY... Area merchants and the general public should be on the lookout for counterfeit \$10 and \$20 bills. Several of these bills have been passed at local businesses in the past few days. Pictured below is a front view of one of the counterfeit bills. On the old \$10 bill there is a noticeable other bill will bear the same serial number as the one pictured above. This may also be true on the \$20. In examining the \$10, when held up to the light, the front is very noticeably out of line with the back. The texture of the paper used on both bills is noticeably "slicker" than on the real thing. It is easier to determine if the \$20 is counterfeit because when it is held up to the light, the bar code is not present nor is the silhouette of Andrew Jackson present in the lower right-hand side of the bill. The printing on both bills will smear when dampened. Anyone coming into possession of the counterfeit bills should contact local law enforcement immediately. If possible, take note of the person passing the bill and/or the tag number of the vehicle he or she is driving.